

plaster pulling-off. Quite a few of us down @ base.

Saturday

THE MOVING OF BIG ERIC

The following cast of thousands:-

- Director - Richard Barnes
- Chief tent pole gripper - Dave Lacey
- Assistant tent pole grippers - Joan Arthur, Pauline Rigley
- Chief tent peg basher - Paul Mann
- A thousand Spanish extras
- Camera work - Video Spain - group PIC
- Animals from - Las Vegas des vacas
- Motors by Ford - driving by Sterling Lacey.

Scene 1

A muddy squalor of arduous scent somewhere in N. Spain  
Enter Left Assistant tent pole gripper Joan "Hey chaps lets get this tent moved otherwise ~~no~~ El Tefe will be just a smidge unhappy when he gets back from his TRULY HEROIC EPIC in 2/7 finding THOUSANDS OF METRES OF NEW CAVE."  
Extras "Burbles burbles burbles" + quiet hum of video motors.  
Animals "Mooor, baaa, moooooo!!"

Scene 2

A few minutes later all cast vying for some patch of grass on which EL COCHETINTO was previously stood.  
"I'M HOT in here" Comes the plaintive cry from the chief gripper.  
"So we'll move around + change the angle as well" Director  
"I'm going to faint" Chief gripper  
"Well I suppose we could actually try it out there." Ast gripper  
"I'M HOT" Chief gripper.  
All grippers grip poles now inside tent and tent begins to 'walk' off stage. Cameras pan round to follow action  
"Joan stand still, Pauline move around, right everybody move

22/ now. Right o.k. put him down there. "Director.

Cameras continue to pan to take in huge pile of tent  
ex contents + several frogs legging it quickly to the quarry.  
Pan in on Chief tent peg basher.

"Where's me Mallett?"

"In the gear tent" Chorus all chief characters

"Can't find it" chief tent peg basher

"Here it is" Joan.

Fade to sounds of whoppety whoppety over! from peg basher

### Scene 3

Sometime later in cool afternoon. Enter Evane debonaire  
Sterling Lacey. All contents of tent now replaced.

"I say chaps lets get the COCHETINTO back by  
the tent" All female extras swoon. Videos pan  
in. Sterling Lacey is VERY Evane debonair.

"O.k I'm move her back, signal me back + do rescue  
those sweet adorable little frogs first." (He's a hero!)

Vroom Vroom CLONK, Vroom CLONK, VROO CLONK,  
VRCLONK as the reverse keeps popping out.

Reverses spraying black oil from EXHAUST all over  
a plastic chair. Heaps from van with a triumphant  
flourish of the keys + exits stage right. End of  
scene

Scene 4. Domestic bliss reinstated. Quiet view of  
onion ring wisdom ala Rigby + emphasis of  
tinkling cowbells in mountain meadows.

END

P.S David. You owe the chief cast a drink - it was  
a bloody hot day's work!

Suggestions for 1993 committee

A large high-powered projectile w/ spin preferably, firing 7.52 rounds/sec with soft nosed or exploding shells

Why didn't you just write machine gun?  
Sean will be cross at you for wasting ink!

Well, an eventful three weeks - finding out I'm probably leaving Oxford; breaking down with the van in the middle of France; getting completely rained on the first few days here; my new generator breaking second tripod falling down a rift deep in 2/7 'What could be better?'

No, seriously it's been a great two weeks canoeing, the highlight being pushing lots of new passage upstream in 2/7 with D. Laga. The place is amazing, the caves are amazing, the company is ~~also~~ well amazing. It's a shame I'm missing so many people who I'd hoped to see. I hope you have a good rest of expedition and I'm sure I'll see you around somewhere, sometime.

Richard

Tuesday 21/7 John Wilcock (oldest of old lags) and Harvey Smith arrive into the Squalor of base camp after enjoying luxurious & curried meals on the Plymouth/Sunderland ferry. After an excellent curry, headed for the bar.

I resent the accusation that Base camp is squalid  
El Jefe.

24  
21 July 1992

Sean has been doing the kitty accounts and has found that the kitty is ~~costing~~ <sup>spending</sup> too much. A great deal of the problem is due to the over consumption of chocolate spread!! So please don't wolf down the remaining 4 tins of spread - eat jam instead. Also don't buy any more chocolate spread - it is too expensive. I'm sorry about this, but it is a choice between increased kitty contributions or the loss of one small luxury that is priced out of all proportion to its desirability.

David

Dave B. has something to say...

When David, Sean, Sam and I went camping in 2/2 David left a list of 13 jobs to be done at Lagos and Ania. These jobs involved moving tents and moving campsites. When we returned to the surface only 2 of the 13 jobs had been done. The big tent at Lagos had moved and the Fore 10 at Ania had moved, well the reason we asked for the tents to be moved is that they kill the grass. Now we have at least 7 patches of dead grass which will NOT recover - even by next year - they will still be dead. This is not what we wish to achieve. We might as well not move the tents at all now as the grass is already dead and we can save the remaining grass the hassle of going yellow. After all the discussions and arguments we have about moving tents every week / 10 days / 2 weeks etc it's pathetic that the tents can't even be moved at the right time, after all the weather was hot (mainly) and there were at least 5 people here on 1 day - to move a Fore 10 takes 2 people 5 minutes.

Also which bunch of ichives bought lots of flour and then proceeded to carry all of it to Arica leaving none at Base?

Think before you do anything — it may save time, energy and money.

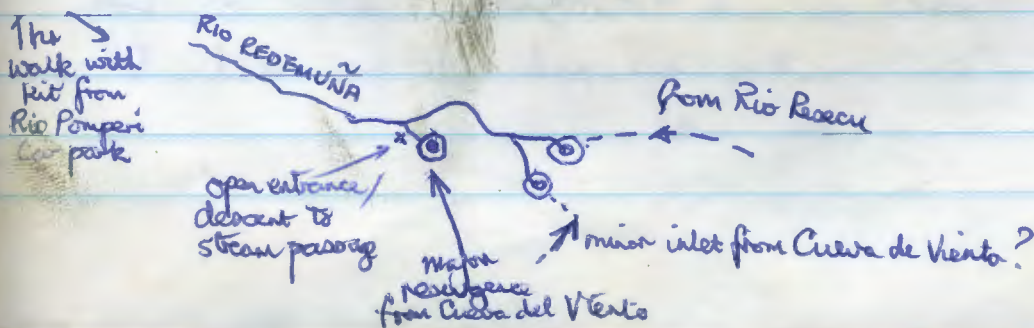
And there's no whigort either...

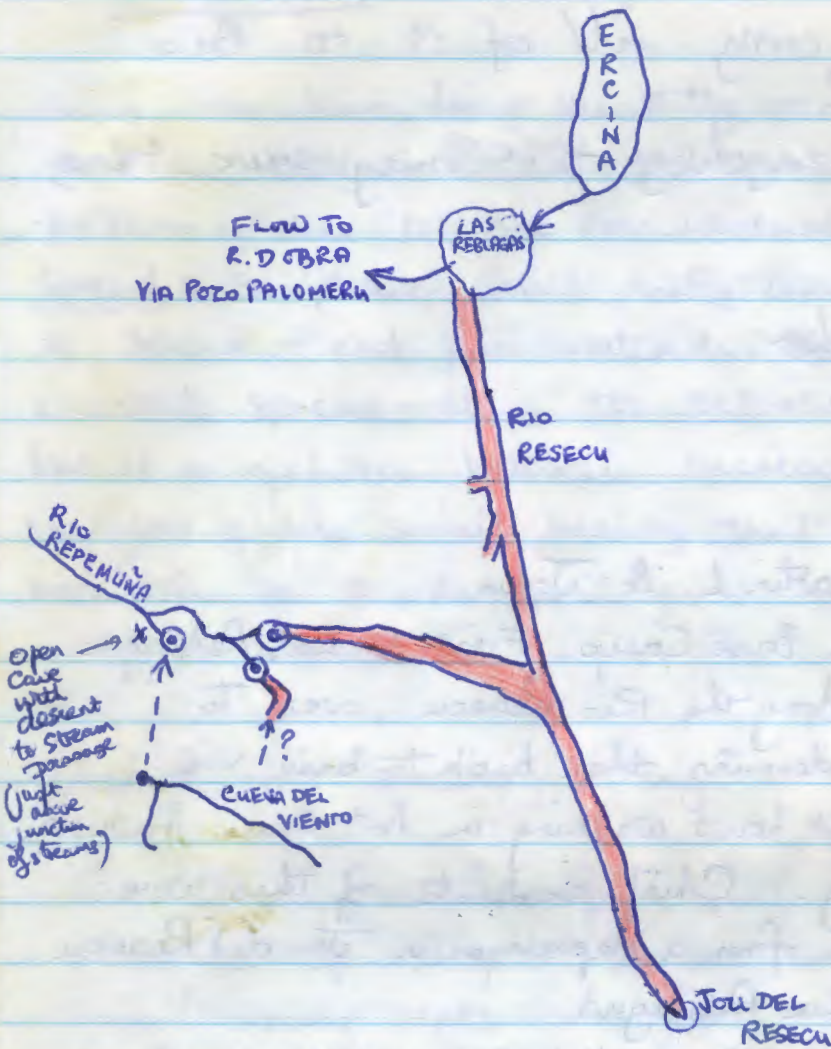
Or any spare gas...

Wednesday 22 July 1992 Martin L. & John

Surface walking/dowsing from Base Camp. First to Las Reblagas then up to Joudel Resecu along the Rio Resecu, over to Vega Orrial and down Rio Redemuña, then back to base via Refugio Enol — about eight hours walking in hot sun. However, mist veiled base camp all day. Chief products of this were:

- ① continuous dowsing reaction from a depression in Joudel Resecu all way down Rio Resecu to Las Reblagas
- ② Feeder from Rio Resecu @ 1350 m altitude to WNW via Vega Orrial to large rising welling up from boulders at start of eastern tributary to Rio Redemuña.
- ③ Stream close to surface for some way before rising on western tributary. Starting direction from cliff base  $013^\circ$  (may originate in Cueva del Viento).
- ④ Major resurgence from Cueva del Viento detected in 1989 revisited. Near this is an open entrance with descent requiring rope to stream passage. Check whether this is already known — if not, this would certainly be worth exploring (see diagram below for location).





John

AND ALMOST ONE FINAL MOAN.

If you intend to wash yourself + your clothes - fine! BUT don't use all the water @ camp and leave scarcely enough for a cup of tea. COLLECT WATER FIRST. Then wash, then refill what you've used. THIS IS ONLY FAIR ON OTHER PEOPLE, or at least if you're in a desperate hurry be so polite as to make your excuses + apologies.

John.

# Dave Bell is the Ultimate Gooseberry

Once again lucky enough to have a beautiful walk down from Airo. Very sorry to be leaving it. Arrived in good weather; to the bar. Lively chat with all @ bar. Tom W. about there now.

Now its Friday 1pm and only  $2\frac{3}{4}$  hrs to go to going home. Good luck for the (1) Shift Bashing (2) 2/7 work. Look after yourselves + have fun. Parting is such sweet sorrow.

Harvey Smith

Wed Feb 22nd

Joan  
XXXX  
XXXX  
XXXX

Well, nearly 3 years after Dave H. tried to persuade me to come on Exp? I finally made it to Airo. Not only this but it only took 2 hours which I was most pleased about given that after lots of effort I have reached my peak of unfitness. Thanks to Martin for a) showing me how to get there b) showing me the wonderful sight of the sun setting below the fluffy sea of clouds.

Thur 23rd

Accompanied Steve, Gavin & Martin to valley of dry bones & continued work on making a cave there. Hole in which we were digging became unstable so after mullerings about dry stone wall building we left it.

Note to Chris D.

Hello Chris! Hope very much that you'll get some juicy casing in, there seem to be about 6 caves on the go so it should be good! See you in a couple of weeks. I've heard that its done nothing but rain @ home - hope other here will cheer up to dry you out.

Love Joan.

(28)  
26<sup>th</sup> July 1992

"Rustyvan" arrived at 04:30, just 23 hours after clanking onto the dock at Briege. An uneventful journey punctuated only by Chris D wedging the van across a main road in a mistimed U-turn in front of an ambulance on the job, (as Jennella why we were heading North into Berdeaux), and waving me up in the back to ~~find out~~ ask where "reverse" gear was. Great to be back.

Two gutted Chris Benham, Jennella Brown, J.C.

Mon 27<sup>th</sup> July.

Horvay makes it from Aric to base camp in fog without getting lost or taking a wrong turn. This will be recognised as a major achievement by anyone who knows my ~~my~~ route finding skills.

Getting some water from the spring was ~~was~~ successful, as I didn't know which diversion to set off in!!

27.7.92 John arrives back at Base after 4 enjoyable days at Aric (1 night at the shepherd's huts campsite & 3 at the new site). All ~~were~~ were beautifully hot & sunny days (almost too hot for the amount of walking I did). There certainly is lots of ~~of~~ caving work to be done, with 5 active caves and great potential. After a "rest" day in the sun at Aric, met the mist at the top of Sod 3 and Base Camp is now quite cold & foggy.



Harvey "It must be the altitude, it definitely gets smaller when you squeeze it!" Smith.

visited A.D.S., C.T.L., S.B.  
M.B. JOW

28.7.92

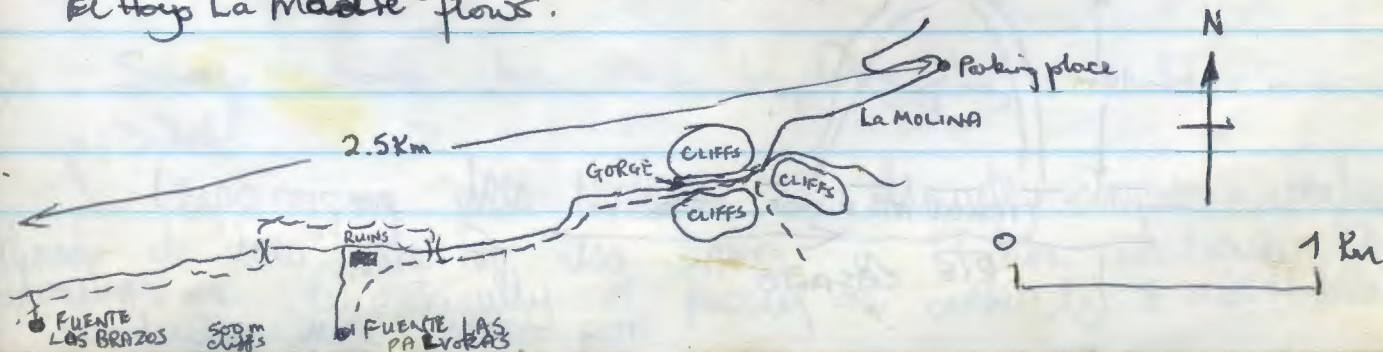
John going on mini-shopping trip & to bank & Po.  
Then to La Molina to look at resurgences. Back c. 7.0pm

Bought 10 loaves of bread & 24 eggs, went to bank, posted 26 cards — no lista de Correos. Bought maps of all 3 massifs & of the Cornion. Then to La Molina by car — a convenient roadhead for the resurgences.

① Fuente Las Palvaras — not as easy to get to as it looks on the map. 1.5 Km from parking place to Ruins of turbine house on good track, then 60 m climb on very poor track. At base of 500 m cliffs. 0.5 m wide rift with strong draught. Estimated flow  $0.5 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . 410 m altitude at Devonian Sandstone junction with limestone (caused by fault? because limestone again outcrops to the north in the Peña del Valle (top) — base is sandstone). From here the massif rises very steeply to the south by 500 m. Mined tunnel (man-sized) intercepts the rift — formerly conducted water via a launder and aqueduct to turbine machinery. Now partially pumped (for water supply?). See sketch over.

② Fuente Los Brazos ("the branches" — probably because it has several branching falls down a 10m boulder slope to the river). Easier access — 2.5 Km from parking place on good track. 0.5 m wide rift (choked). Water wells up from cleft. Estimated flow  $0.1 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . 450 m altitude at Devonian Sandstone Junction with limestone.

Both the above resurgences are on the Rio Casañs, the river into which El Hoye La Molina flows.



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# FUENTE LAS PALVORAS

LOOKING SOUTH

